

## CLAIMS

1. A method of accessing a related item comprising:  
composing a list of one or more related items wherein said related items are  
5 related to a task by a metric; and  
selecting said related item from said list.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said related items are computer objects.

10 3. The method of claim 2 wherein said metric comprises:  
determining whether a first computer object and a second computer object have a  
user in common.

15 4. The method of claim 2 wherein said metric comprises:  
determining whether a first computer object and a second computer object have an  
appropriate amount of data in common.

5. The method of claim 2 wherein said metric comprises:  
determining whether a first computer object and a second computer object are  
20 accessed with a frequency by one or more users.

6. The method of claim 2 wherein said metric comprises:  
determining whether a computer object was recently accessed.

25 7. The method of claim 2 wherein said metric comprises:

determining whether a first computer object is a copy of a second computer object.

8. The method of claim 2 wherein said metric comprises:

5 determining whether a first computer object is a template and a second computer object was produced from said first computer object.

9. The method of claim 2 wherein said metric comprises:

10 determining whether a first computer object and a second computer object are both produced from a template.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein said related items are users.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein said metric comprises:

15 determining whether a user has accessed a computer object.

12. The method of claim 10 wherein said metric comprises:

determining whether a user is referenced in a computer object.

20 13. The method of claim 10 wherein said metric comprises:

determining whether a user was recently contacted.

14. The method of claim 1 wherein said list is displayed continuously.

25 15. The method of claim 1 wherein said list sometimes hidden.

16. The method of claim 1 wherein a status of said related items is displayed.

17. A related item accessing device comprising:

5 a list generator configured to generate a list of one or more related items wherein said related items are related to a task by a metric; and  
a selection mechanism configured to select said related item from said list.

10 18. The related item accessing device of claim 17 wherein said related items are computer objects.

19. The related item accessing device of claim 18 wherein said metric comprises:

15 a determiner configured to determine whether a first computer object and a second computer object have a user in common.

20. The related item accessing device of claim 18 wherein said metric comprises:

20 a determiner configured to determine whether a first computer object and a second computer object have an appropriate amount of data in common.

21. The related item accessing device of claim 18 wherein said metric comprises:

25 a determiner configured to determine whether a first computer object and a second computer object are accessed with a frequency by one or more users.

22. The related item accessing device of claim 18 wherein said metric comprises:

a determiner configured to determine whether a computer object was recently  
5 accessed.

23. The related item accessing device of claim 18 wherein said metric comprises:

determining whether a first computer object is a copy of a second computer  
10 object.

24. The related item accessing device of claim 18 wherein said metric comprises:

determining whether a first computer object is a template and a second computer  
15 object was produced from said first computer object.

25. The related item accessing device of claim 18 wherein said metric comprises:

determining whether a first computer object and a second computer object are  
20 both produced from a template.

26. The related item accessing device of claim 17 wherein said related items are users.

27. The related item accessing device of claim 26 wherein said metric comprises:

a determiner configured to determine whether a user has accessed a computer object.

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28. The related item accessing device of claim 26 wherein said metric comprises:

a determiner configured to determine whether a user is referenced in a computer object.

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29. The related item accessing device of claim 26 wherein said metric comprises:

a determiner configured to determine whether a user was recently contacted.

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30. The related item accessing device of claim 17 wherein said list is displayed continuously.

31. The related item accessing device of claim 17 wherein said list sometimes hidden.

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32. The related item accessing device of claim 17 wherein a status of said related items is displayed.

33. A computer program product comprising:  
a computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied  
therein configured for accessing a related item, comprising:  
computer readable code configured to cause a computer to generate a list of one or  
5 more related items wherein said related items are related to a task by a metric; and  
computer readable code configured to cause a computer to select said related item  
from said list.

34. The computer program product of claim 33 wherein said related items are  
10 computer objects.

35. The computer program product of claim 34 wherein said computer  
readable code configured to cause a computer to generate comprises:  
computer readable code configured to cause a computer to determine whether a  
15 first computer object and a second computer object have a user in common.

36. The computer program product of claim 34 wherein said computer  
readable code configured to cause a computer to generate comprises:  
computer readable code configured to cause a computer to determine whether a  
20 first computer object and a second computer object have an appropriate amount of data in  
common.

37. The computer program product of claim 34 wherein said computer  
readable code configured to cause a computer to generate comprises:

computer readable code configured to cause a computer to determine whether a first computer object and a second computer object are accessed with a frequency by one or more users.

5           38.     The computer program product of claim 34 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to generate comprises:

            computer readable code configured to cause a computer to determine whether a computer object was recently accessed.

10           39.     The computer program product of claim 34 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to generate comprises:

            computer readable code configured to cause a computer to determine whether a first computer object is a copy of a second computer object.

15           40.     The computer program product of claim 34 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to generate comprises:

            computer readable code configured to cause a computer to determine whether a first computer object is a template and a second computer object was produced from said first computer object.

20           41.     The computer program product of claim 34 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to generate comprises:

            computer readable code configured to cause a computer to determine whether a first computer object and a second computer object are both produced from a template.

42. The computer program product of claim 33 wherein said related items are users.

43. The computer program product of claim 42 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to generate comprises:  
computer readable code configured to cause a computer to determine whether a user has accessed a computer object.

44. The computer program product of claim 42 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to generate comprises:  
computer readable code configured to cause a computer to determine whether a user is referenced in a computer object.

45. The computer program product of claim 42 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to generate comprises:  
computer readable code configured to cause a computer to determine whether a user was recently contacted.

46. The computer program product of claim 33 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to select comprises:  
computer readable code configured to cause a computer to display said list continuously.

47. The computer program product of claim 33 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to select comprises:



computer readable code configured to cause a computer to hide said list.

48. The computer program product of claim 33 wherein said computer readable code configured to cause a computer to select comprises:

5 computer readable code configured to cause a computer to display a status of said related items.